

Message Text

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14

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 INR-09 LAB-06

NSAE-00 RSC-01 SIL-01 L-03 PA-03 USIA-12 PRS-01 PM-09

RSR-01 /072 W

----- 026663

R 270056 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0606

INFO CNO WASHDC

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E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: ELAB, MARR, AS, US

SUBJ: CONFERENCE WITH MEMBERS OF TLC

FOL TEL SENT ACTION CANBERRA MELBOURNE PERTH SYDNEY AND COM-
NAVCOMM WASHDC FROM NAVCOMMSTA HAROLD E HOLD EXMOUTH AUSTRALIA
DTG 260755 Z MAR 73 H/ W REPEATED FOR YOU::

QUOTE

UNCLAS E F T O FOUO // N12000//

CONFERENCE WITH MEMBERS OF TLC

1. MEETING CONVENED 0900 HOURS 26 MAR TO DISCUSS

C. O. MEMORANDUM REGARDING LEAVE WITHOUT PAY. ATMOSPHERE
CONGENIAL;

MR COLEMAN OPENED MEETING THANKING C. O. FOR INVITATION AND OPPORT-
UNITY TO DISCUSS MEMORANDUM. ASSURED C. O. THAT MUCH OF THE PRESS
MEDIA COVERAGE OF THE ISSUE WAS NOT ATTRIBUTABLE TO COMMENTS MADE
BY HIM.

2. THE TLC CLAIMED THAT THE MEMORANDUM IMPLIED THAT EMPLOYEES
SHOULD, OR WERE ENCOURAGED TO TAKE LEAVE WITHOUT PAY WHICH WAS IN
THEIR OPINION A VIOLATION OF CLAUSE 7 OF THE INDUSTRIAL AGREEMENT
- CONTRACT OF SERVICE - WHICH THEY CONSTRUE TO MEAN THE CONTRACT

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PAGE TWO RUYASAA1356 UNCLAS E F T O FOUO
OF SERVICE IS CONTINUING EMPLOYMENT BY THE WEEK TERMINABLE BY
EITHER PARTY AT A WEEK'S NOTICE. AT THIS STAGE MR COLEMAN HANDED
PROCEEDINGS OF THE UNION CASE TO MR DAVIES, THE CONVEOR OF THE
STANDING COMMITTEE APPOINTED BY THE TLC TO NEGOTIATE THE INDUST-
RIAL AGREEMENT.

3. MR DAVIES STATED THAT ALTHOUGH IT WAS THE RIGHT OF AN
INDIVIDUAL TO REQUEST LEAVE WITHOUT PAY IT WAS AGAINST THE PRIN-
CIPLE OF INDUSTRIAL PRACTICES FOR THE EMPLOYER TO IMPLY EMPLOYEES
SHOULD TAKE LEAVE WITHOUT PAY. C. O. INFORMED MEETING THAT HE HAD
WITHDRAWN THE MEMORANDUM AND RECOGNIZING THAT A POSSIBLE ERROR
IN JUDGMENT HAD BEEN MADE INASMUCH THAT SUPERVISORS AND EMPLOYEES
MAY HAVE INTERPRETED THE MEMORANDUM TO THE EFFECT THAT
MANAGEMENT WAS

PUTTING SOME PRESSURE ON EMPLOYEES TO TAKE SUCH LEAVE. VARIOUS
OTHER MINOR POINTS OR CLARIFICATION REGARDING INDUSTRIAL AGREEMENT
DISCUSSED TO MUTUAL BETTERMENT OF BOTH PARTIES.

4. MEETING CONCLUDED AT 1100 HOURS. TLC REPRESENTATIVES THEN INVITED
TO TOUR THE STATION; SOME CONTACTED THEIR MEMBERS IN THE SHOPS ON
OTHER UNION BUSINESS. THE PARTY REASSEMBLED ON STATION 1130 HOURS
WHERE GOODBYES WERE SAID AND WERE DRIVEN BACK TO THEIR
ACCOMMODATIONS
AND HENCE ON TO THE LIGHT AIRCRAFT STRIP FOR DEPARTURE AT 1300 HOUR.

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5. BELIEVE TLC REPRESENTATIVES AWARE THAT MOST EMPLOYEES UNHAPPY
WITH UNION INTERFERENCE ON WHAT THEY REGARD TO BE A RIGHT TO
APPLY FOR LEAVE WITHOUT PAY IN A DEMOCRATIC SENSE. BELIEVE
THIS ALSO TO BE REASON THAT NO OPEN MEETING CALLED WITH EMPLOYEES.
ALSO BELIEVE THE TLC ARE OF THE OPINION THAT THEY AVE NOT REPEAT
NOT ENHANCED PROSPECTS OF THE LOCAL TLC REPRESENTATIVE AND STATION
EMPLOYEE, MR ARTHUR COLE (ALP NOMINEE) IN THE FORTHCOMING LEG-
ISLATIVE COUNCIL ELECTIONS IN FEBRUARY 1974. FURTHER BELIEVE
SOME SHOP STEWARDS AVOIDED MEETING WITH TLC REPS SUNDAY. GRAPE-
VINE HAS IT THAT SOME EMPLOYEES WRITING PERSONAL LETTERS
TO MEDIA PROTESTING TLC INTERFERENCE. COMMAND IN NO WAY IS EN-
COURAGING ANY SUCH ACTIONS. VAST MAJORITY EMPLOYEES EVEN MORE
LOYAL
TO THE BASE NOW AND IN THE FINEST SENSE. EVEN MR DAVIES FINAL
COMMENTS TO C. O. WERE TO EFFECT THAT HE WAS IMPRESSED WITH THE
" HIGH ORDER" OF COURTESY EXTENDED.

UNQUOTE.

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RICE

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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